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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Michael Berthon-Jones et al.
SERIAL NO. : 09/661,998
FILING DATE : September 14, 2000
GROUP ART UNIT : 3761
EXAMINER : Joseph Weiss
TITLE : PATIENT VENTILATOR SYNCHRONIZATION USING
DUAL PHASE SENSORS

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR STATUS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The Preliminary Amendment is filed to correct several inadvertent errors in the form of the claims. A complete set of the pending claims follows. A marked-up version of the claims showing only the changes from the prior application is attached as appendix A. The Applicant also hereby requests confirmation of the status of the current application.

In the claims:

Kindly amend claims 2, 16, 18, 32, 34 and 38.

1. A method of providing synchronized ventilatory support to a patient comprising the steps of:

determining the patient's instantaneous respiration phase at least in part from both measured respiratory airflow and a signal from a respiratory effort sensor,